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1712

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/826,127	
	Filing Date	April 4, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Nelson et al.	
	Group Art Unit	1712	
	Examiner Name	Tucker, P.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	19	Attorney Docket Number	56.0503

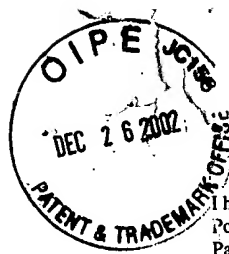
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:
Nelson, et al.

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DOCKET NO.: 56.0503

SERIAL NO.: 09/826,127

GROUP ART UNIT: 1712

FILED: April 4, 2001

TITLE: VISCOSITY REDUCTION OF
VISCOELASTIC SURFACTANT BASED
FLUIDS

EXAMINER: Tucker P.

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 10, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

Status of the application

Claims 1-36 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 18, 19, 24, 26-28, 30, 32 and 36 were rejected under 102(e) as being anticipated by Tibbles (6140277). Claim 31 was rejected under 102(e) as being anticipated by Chang (6399546). Claims 22, 23 and 32 were objected under 35 USC § 112. Claims 4-17, 20, 21, 25, 29 and 33-35 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected case but otherwise allowable.

Amendments

Please cancel claims 27-28, 30-32, and 36, amend claims 1, 5, 15-16, 20, 22, 29 and 33-35 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of treating a subterranean formation, said treatment selected among hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing and comprising the step of injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing

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